

Week ending February 21, 2009



**Work continues on the Pad Abort 1 (PA1) crew module (CM) test article in the Shuttle Hangar at Dryden Flight Research Center (Photo left).** The team has successfully integrated the CM test article and the PA1 SepRing, the culmination of two years of hard work. The test article is scheduled for air and ground transport to White Sands Missile Range this spring.



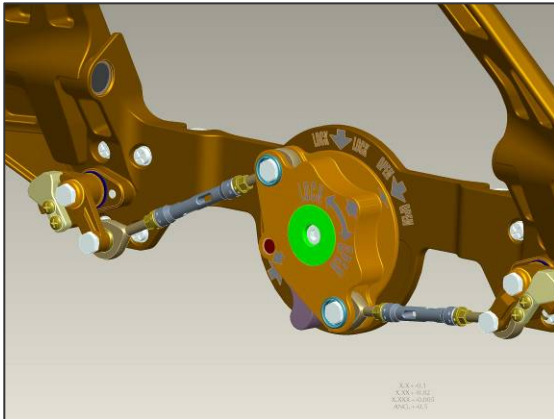
**One hundred trucks recently lined up at NASA Glenn Research Center's Plum Brook Station carrying 1,600 tons of concrete,** just enough for the foundation of one of the new facilities NASA is building to test the Orion crew exploration vehicle (Photo below).



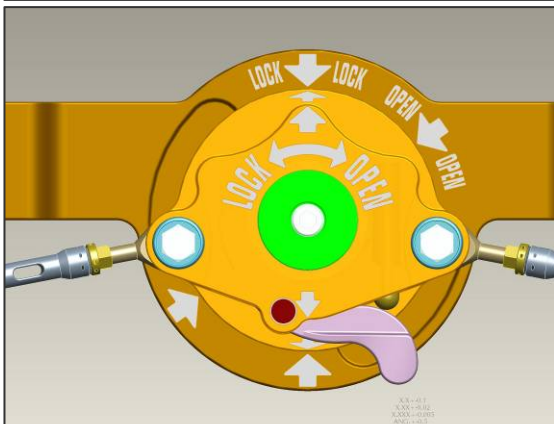
NASA is constructing two immense additions, an acoustic chamber and vibration test stand, adjacent to the world's largest vacuum chamber in the Space Power Facility in Sandusky, Ohio (Photo left). The renovated facility will test Orion in the challenging environments it will encounter during spaceflight.



**The Launch Abort System Attitude Control Motor cast date for the first Development Motor is complete.** This was the first full-scale Attitude Control Motor to be cast. The Pad Abort-1 motor is scheduled to be cast on March 24. Abort Motor ST-1 dissected hardware is currently being inspected by NASA team.



**Low Impact Docking System (LIDS) layout for the Guide Petals opening and locking indications of the latest handle design are shown in photos at left.** This concept is under review by the mechanical leads and Mission Operations Directorate representatives. Plans are being made to rapid prototype this hardware once agreements are in place.



## Communications and Public Engagement

**On February 19, more than 500 people including Congressional and community representatives gathered at the Aerospace Museum of California in Sacramento, California to unveil NASA's "Space: A Journey to Our Future" exhibit (Photo below right).** This exhibit was on display in Washington, D.C. for NASA's 50th anniversary and subsequently was sent to the museum where it will reside until September 2009. Astronaut Bo Bobko was the keynote speaker (Photo below left) for the event. The museum expects more than 60,000 visitors over the next seven months. Other opportunities to highlight Orion will exist during the exhibit's Sacramento stay. Students from NASA's Discovery school (Edward Harris Middle School in Sacramento) also enjoyed a visit from Astronaut Bo Bobko and Jim Long of Aerojet (Photo bottom left).

